

## NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **CONTACT:**

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## ICF Conservation Achievement Scholarship Program Now Accepting Applications

SPRINGFIELD, IL –The Illinois Conservation Foundation (ICF) will honor high school seniors who have demonstrated outstanding efforts to preserve, protect, enhance and/or promote Illinois' natural resources with the awarding of three Conservation Achievement Scholarships. One \$5,000 scholarship, one \$3,000 scholarship and one \$2,000 scholarship are available.

"Part of the mission of the Illinois Conservation Foundation is to foster and promote the value of Illinois' natural resources and to encourage the next generation of leaders to engage in personal efforts to preserve and enhance a sustainable outdoor environment," said Marc Miller, Director of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and ICF Chairman of the Board. "These scholarships will help recognize the significant work that young people in our state are currently undertaking."

Applicants must be an Illinois resident and a senior in an Illinois high school during the 2010-2011 school year. Voluntary, effective contributions to Illinois' natural resources throughout the applicant's high school enrollment must be documented. Additional criteria, information and application can be found at <a href="www.ilcf.org/documents/YouthSchlrshp2011final.pdf">www.ilcf.org/documents/YouthSchlrshp2011final.pdf</a>.

"Illinois youth make amazing environmental contributions that often go unrecognized," said Mark Spangler, ICF Executive Director. "The ICF values this work and wants to support the continued education of these students."

Applications must be postmarked by November 30, 2010. Questions may be addressed to Kathy Wheeler at kathy.wheeler@illinois.gov or (217) 785-2003.

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